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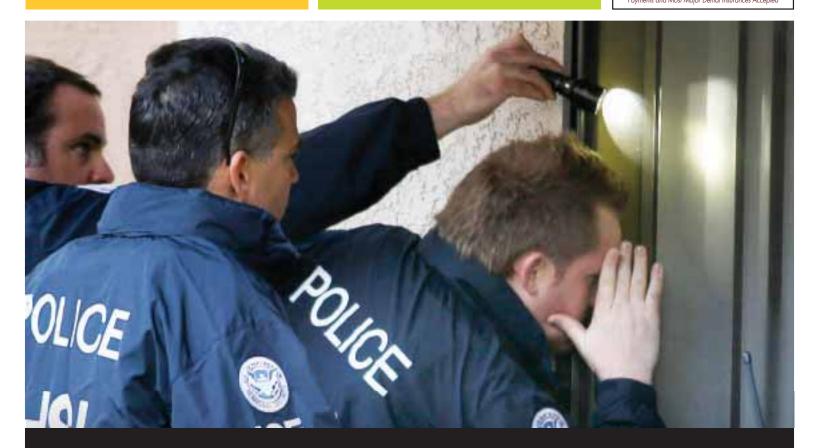


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ICE AGE

An immigration lawyer is troubled by Trump's aggressive deportation directives. 4

BATHROOM RULES

Donald Trump's administration on Wednesday revoked landmark guidance issued to public schools in defense of transgender student rights, reversing course on a signature initiative of former Democratic President Barack Obama. Obama instructed public schools in May 2016 to allow transgender students to use the bathrooms matching their chosen gender identity, threatening to withhold federal

funding if they should force transgender children to use bathrooms against their will. The Obama guidelines had already been put on hold by a federal judge, but the Trump administration went ahead and withdrew them. The Justice and Education departments will continue to study the legal issues

involved, according to the new, superseding guidance that will be sent to public schools across the country. REUTERS

CHANGE TO TRANSGENDER | TRUMP TO PLAY TWICE AS | **MUCH GOLF AS OBAMA**

Despite responsibilities like filling hundreds of still-vacant federal job openings, working with congress to implement his many campaign promises and keeping America safe as commander in chief, Donald Trump has spent one fifth of his days as president so far on the golf course. By comparison, Barack Obama — according to Mark Knoller, a White House correspondent for CBS News -

played 333 rounds of golf while serving as president. Of his 2,922 days in office, that means he played golf just around 11 percent of the time, or one-tenth. Trump is on pace to play twice as much golf as Obama. Why does this matter? The president certainly has the right, as does anyone else living in a free country, to engage in whatever leisure activities he prefers. But Trump is a hypocrite. Just check his Twitter. EVAN MACY

BELICHICK MAY TESTIFY IN HERNANDEZ TRIAL

Patriots head coach Bill Belichick and offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels are on a list of potential witnesses in the murder trial for former tight end and already-convicted murderer Aaron Hernandez. The coaches were among the more than 280 names mentioned on a list of potential defense witnesses. Belichick, McDaniels and Miami Dolphins center Mike Pouncey

are listed with other people that Hernandez's lawyers may want to speak with and "reserves the right to add them later." Another document released Wednesday included transcripts of calls between Hernandez and Pouncey in which Hernandez describes people who would "try" (disrespect) him. Prosecutors want the calls to be submitted as evidence, according to WCVB. erin tiernan



DYLANN ROOF STOPPED AT SECOND CHURCH

Dylann Roof drove to another African-American church after killing nine black parishioners in Charleston, South Carolina, U.S. prosecutors said in newly unsealed court documents. Roof was sentenced to death after being found guilty of charges connected to the June 17, 2015, massacre at a Bible study meeting at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. In a September court filing released

on Tuesday, federal prosecutors said that after the shooting, Roof fled the church with his gun and drove about 20 miles to Branch AME Church in Summerville. That church also has a predominantly African-American congregation and held a Bible study meeting on the night Roof drove to it. GPS evidence from Roof's car showed he slowed and then stopped at the church for two to three minutes, according to prosecutors. REUTERS

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CRISTABELLE TUMOLA, WEB EDITOR JUST WHEN you thought Hello Kitty had done every Hello Kitty theme possible — they thought of one more. The world's first Hello Kitty supermarket just opened in

Hong Kong, offering about 250 branded foods and other products inspired by the famed Sanrio character. Hello Kitty even reportedly acts as the official "store manager." If you can't make it to China by May, when the pop-up store closes, then take a tour here: metro.us/viral

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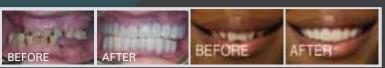
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Details of Trump's new deportation rules that worry an immigration lawyer

Here are the major takeaways and how these new regulations will affect not

only immigrants but also taxpayers.



KRISTIN TOUSSAINT @kristindakota kristin.toussaint@metro.us

The Department of Homeland Security on Tuesday laid out guidelines for what appears to be an aggressive crackdown on undocumented immigrants an approach championed by Donald Trump while he campaigned for the presidency.

Kari Hong, an expert in immigration law and professor at Boston College Law School, details four actions she finds most troubling:

Criminality

The focus of President Barack Obama's immigration policy was to prioritize deporting undocumented immigrants who committed serious crimes," but these new directions "eliminate that divide," Hong said.

"Anyone now is a priority if they have committed any crime, including misdemeanors and infractions, or committed conduct that could be a crime, as determined by immigra-tion officers," she said. That means at least 8 million people are now designated as a "top priority" for deportation, including people who have not committed crimes, Hong said.

Carol Rose, executive director of the ACLU of Massachusetts, noted that the country will now "waste" its resources to go after people who have done nothing other than overstay their visa which isn't a crime.

"We're not talking about people who are violent and dangerous," she said. "We're talking about people who live among us, who are our neighbors and who pay taxes."



President Donald Trump has carried through with campaign promises to crack down on undocumented immigrants. GETTY IMAGES

2 New border and immigration officers

The Department of Homeland Security intends to hire 5,000 new **Border Patrol agents** and 10,000 new Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers, for which the salaries alone would cost at least \$50 million, Hong

The agency is also asking to have state and local governments identify and detain noncitizens. This would be voluntary, yet experts fear that cities and towns will cooperate out of fear of retalia-

Many states and cities have previously opted out of this partnership because over half of the people swept up didn't have any criminal convictions, and local and state governments were on the hook for detention costs that ran into the millions while ICE figured out what to do" with those people, Hong said. Local municipalities were never reimbursed by the federal government.

Immigration 3 hearing

"As a practical matter, under existing law, everyone is entitled to a hearing," Hong said.

These are necessary, as half of the people who appear before an immigration judge are found to have a right to stay in the U.S., she added.

The new guidelines would circumvent that

Currently, about a half-million people are awaiting hearings, Hong said, adding that there is a three-year wait for them.

Homeland Security has said nothing about hiring more immigration lawyers. If another 8 million undocumented immigrants now considered "priority" are added to the existing backlog, it could take up to 50 years to give everyone a hearing, Hong said.

The Trump administration said that they will expand "expedited removal" to avoid this. That process is intended for someone who was previously deported and re-entered the U.S., Hong said, not for someone who has never gone through the hearing process.

"Mistakes are going

to be significant," she said. "The presumption is to arrest, detain and deport first under the discretion of ICE officers. But under the existing law, anywhere from 1 to 8 percent of people picked up [by officers are actually

4 Detention centers and public cost

Taxpayers currently contribute \$2 billion a year for the detention of about 400,000 noncitizens, Hong said.

"If we increase that for every new million noncitizens detained, we're looking at detention costs of \$5 billion, all going to for-profit, private companies," she

This increased cost

Undocumented neiahbors

Number of undocumented immigrants, according to the Pew Research Center New York City metro area, which includes suburbs in northern New Jersey, western Connecticut and northeastern Pennsylvania: 1,150,000

New York City alone: 525,000

to the taxpayer will come at the same time that money contributed by immigrants will be leaving our economy.

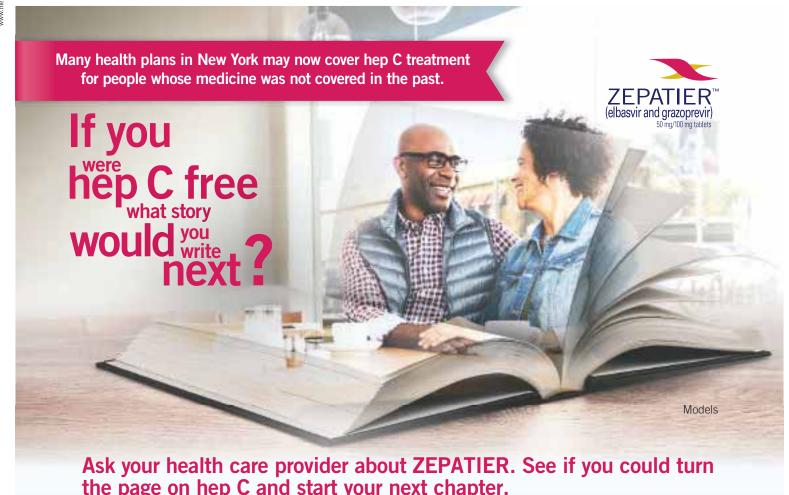
"Based on numbers from the Social Security office, in 2013, \$12 billion was paid by undocumented immigrants,' Hong said. "That's \$12 billion more than President Trump paid in federal taxes.

Some of the immigrants who could be picked up per these regulations are women whose "sole crime is illegally obtaining a Social Security number so that they can work and pay taxes," Hong said.

She also noted that "someone has to be around to pay for Social Security," and that U.S. citizens are not having children at a rate that will provide for that.

Currently, children under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, called "dreamers," will still be protected, though Hong warned that Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who called DACA constitutionally "questionable," will have the final decision on its standing.

"We will be hurt in the immediate term and the long term if don't integrate immigrants in very successful way," Hong said. "President Trump is the child of an immigrant; President Obama is child of a noncitizen ... Everyone who is not Native American is in that situation. It's really sad that we forget quickly how deep our immigrant roots are."



ZEPATIER is a once-a-day pill with the power to cure chronic hepatitis C (hep C) infection. ZEPATIER is a prescription medicine used to treat chronic (long-lasting) hep C genotypes 1 or 4 infections in adults. ZEPATIER may sometimes be given with another medicine called ribavirin. In clinical studies, 94% to 97%* of patients with genotype 1 and 97% to 100%† of patients with genotype 4 chronic hep C infection were cured with once-daily ZEPATIER. Cure means the hep C virus is not detected in the blood when measured 3 months after treatment is completed.

* In studies of patients with genotype 1 chronic hep C infection, the percentages of patients cured after taking ZEPATIER were: 94% (90 of 96 patients); 94% (115 of 122 patients); 95% (273 of 288 patients); 95% (179 of 189 patients); 96% (76 of 79 patients); and 97% (93 of 96 patients).

[†] In studies of patients with genotype 4 chronic hep C infection, the percentages of patients cured after taking ZEPATIER were: 97% (64 of 66 patients) and 100% (8 of 8 patients).

Important safety information

ZEPATIER is not for people with certain liver problems. Tell your health care provider if you have liver problems other than hep C. Also tell your health care provider if you have ever taken any medicine for hep C, have HIV or any other medical conditions, have had or are waiting for a liver transplant, or are nursing, pregnant, or trying to get pregnant. Tell your health care provider about all of the medicines you take. ZEPATIER may affect how other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how ZEPATIER works. Some medicines cannot be taken with ZEPATIER. Your health care provider can tell you if it is safe to take ZEPATIER with other medicines.

ZEPATIER may cause increases in your liver-related blood tests, which could be a sign of serious liver problems. Your health care provider will do blood tests to check your liver before and during treatment with ZEPATIER. Tell your health care provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms or if they get worse during treatment with ZEPATIER: loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, feeling tired or weak, yellowing of your skin or eyes, or color changes in your stool.

If you take ZEPATIER with ribavirin, be sure you read the Medication Guide for ribavirin. Common side effects of ZEPATIER include feeling tired, headache, and nausea. When ZEPATIER is used with ribavirin, common side effects also include low red blood cell counts.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please read the adjacent Patient Information for ZEPATIER and discuss it with your doctor.

Start writing your next chapter today, New York. Talk with your health care provider about ZEPATIER.

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Patient Information ZEPATIER™ (ZEP-ah-teer) (elbasvir and grazoprevir) tablets



What you need to know about ZEPATIER

- Before you take this medicine, be sure you understand what it is for and how to take it safely.
- Keep this information.
- If you have questions about this medicine, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.
- Every time you get a refill, look at the Patient Information. There may be new information.
- Your healthcare provider may prescribe ZEPATIER with a medicine called ribavirin. Ribavirin is also known as Rebetol® Copegus® Ribasphere," and Moderiba." If you take both ZEPATIER and ribavirin, be sure you read the Medication Guide for ribavirin.

What is ZEPATIER?

ZEPATIER is a prescription medicine used with or without ribavirin to treat chronic (long-lasting) hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotypes 1 or 4 infection in adults.

It is not known if ZEPATIER is safe or effective in children under 18 years old, people awaiting a liver transplant, or people who have had a liver transplant.

Who should not take ZEPATIER?

Do not take ZEPATIER if you have certain liver problems.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking ZEPATIER?

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have liver problems other than hepatitis C
- have ever taken any medicine for hepatitis C
- have HIV
- have had or are waiting for a liver transplant
- have any other medical conditions
- are pregnant or trying to get pregnant. ZEPATIER has not been studied in pregnant women. We do not know if ZEPATIER will harm your baby while you are pregnant.
- O Males and females who take ZEPATIER and ribavirin should also read the ribavirin Medication Guide for important pregnancy, contraception, and infertility information.
- · are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. We do not know if ZEPATIER gets in your breast milk and gets passed to your baby. o Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby during treatment with ZEPATIER.

Are you taking other medicines?

Tell your healthcare provider about all of the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. ZEPATIER may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how ZEPATIER works. Some medicines cannot be taken with ZEPATIER. Your healthcare provider can tell you if it is safe to take ZEPATIER with other medicines.

- Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.
- · You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that interact with this medicine.
- Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your healthcare provider.

How do I take ZEPATIER?

- Take 1 ZEPATIER tablet at the same time every day.
- ZEPATIER comes in a blister package of individually-packaged tablets. Keep the tablets in this package until you are ready to take vour dose.
- Take ZEPATIER exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take ZEPATIER with or without food.
- Do not stop taking ZEPATIER without first talking with your healthcare provider.
- If you take more than your prescribed dose, call your healthcare provider right away.

What if I forget to take ZEPATIER?

- · Do not take two doses of ZEPATIER at the same time to make up for a missed dose.
- If you are not sure what to do, call your healthcare provider or pharmacist. It is important that you do not miss or skip doses of ZEPATIER during treatment.

What are the possible side effects of ZEPATIER?

Signs of liver problems. ZEPATIER may cause increases in your liver-related blood tests. This could be a sign of serious liver problems. Your healthcare provider will do blood tests to check your liver before and during treatment with ZEPATIER. Tell your

healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms or if they get worse during treatment with ZEPATIER:

- loss of appetite
- yellowing of your skin or eyes
- nausea and vomiting
- color changes in your stool
- feeling tired or weak
- Common side effects of ZEPATIER when used without ribavirin include:
- feeling tired
- trouble sleeping
- headache
- diarrhea

nausea

Common side effects of ZEPATIER when used with ribavirin include:

- low red blood cell counts (anemia) feeling irritable
 - stomach pain
- headache feeling tired
- depression
- shortness of breath
- joint pain
- · rash or itching

If you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away, tell your healthcare provider.

There may be other side effects to ZEPATIER that are not listed. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088. For more information or medical advice, call your doctor.

Where should I keep ZEPATIER?

- Keep ZEPATIER in its original packaging (blister package) until you are ready to take it. Do not take the tablets out of the original blister package to store in another container such as a pill box. This is important because the tablets are sensitive to moisture. The package is designed to protect them.

 • Keep ZEPATIER at room temperature.

 • Keep ZEPATIER and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about ZEPATIER

- Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in the Patient Information. Do not use ZEPATIER for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give ZEPATIER to other people, even if they have the same condition. It may harm them.
- If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or pharmacist. You can ask them for information about ZEPATIER that was written for health professionals.
- For more information, call Merck, the company that makes ZEPATIER, at 1-877-888-4231 or go to www.ZEPATIER.com.

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The active ingredients are: elbasvir and grazoprevir. The inactive ingredients are: colloidal silicon dioxide, copovidone, croscarmellose sodium, hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, magnesium stearate, mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium chloride, sodium lauryl sulfate, and vitamin E polyethylene glycol succinate.

The tablets are film-coated with a coating material containing the following inactive ingredients: carnauba wax, ferrosoferric oxide, hypromellose, iron oxide red, iron oxide yellow, lactose monohydrate, titanium dioxide, and triacetin.

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FDNY recruiter challenges women to join ranks of firefighters

Woman firefighter is FDNY's first women's outreach coordinator.



Jackie-Michelle Martinez never intended to fight fires for a living. As a kid, Martinez

As a kid, Martinez dreamed of becoming a doctor, and her knowledge of the ins and outs of firefighting was, predictably, limited to a child's-eye view.

"I just knew there were firefighters, and that if there was a fire, people would come [to help]," she said.

That changed in 2001 when Martinez, then employed at a product management firm, spotted an FDNY recruitment poster depicting three female firefighters. Something sparked in her, and she called the number on the ad

It took a little time; First she enrolled in the Fire Safety Cadet Program, then she worked as an EMT. Martinez finally achieved her goal in 2006, joining South Jamaica's Engine 275 and launching a long, nontraditional career she describes as both lucrative and meaningful, especially for women.

When Martinez joined the force, there were only 28 other women on it. Today, there are 58 — and she hopes to help raise that number significantly higher.

The FDNY employs

The FDNY employs more than 10,000 uniformed firefighters.

In 2015, Martinez became the FDNY's first

women's outreach coordinator, tasked with helping draw more women to the ranks (girls and women 17 to 29 years old can take the exam). "If more women start seeing us being vocal and present, we start to change this idea" that firefighting isn't a viable career for women, she explained.

Nowadays, Martinez spends much time speaking with women and girls at high schools, colleges, sports teams and community organizations.

"Wherever women are is where I am," she

She facilitates handson demonstrations to illustrate various elements of the job, such as putting on gear and pulling a 160-175-pound dummy, so participants can get a taste of what's expected from the job. When they see it's doable, "their fear and apprehension start to dwindle," she said.

Martinez's efforts have drawn recognition from both colleagues and everyday citizens. In December, she was nominated as a New Yorker of the Year and profiled in the New York Times; she also appeared on the cover of The Official FDNY 2017 Calendar of Heroes. But her primary mission these days is to help shift perceptions of what women can and can't do.

To women who are interested in firefighting but feel ambivalent or intimidated, she advises, "Don't be dismayed or deterred. You can do this job. And you can really help people"

"Wherever women are is where I am."

Jackie-Michelle Martinez



Jackie-Michelle Martinez showing the ropes, in this case the hose, to a potential recruit. FDNY



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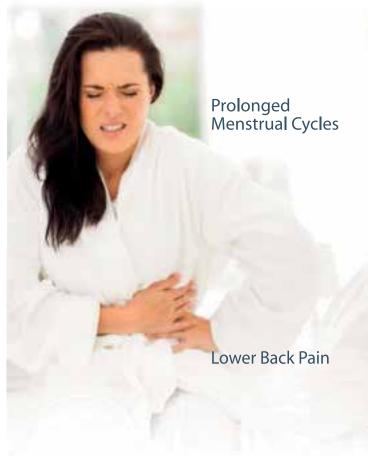
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Former Miss USA contestant opens law practice to help undocumented immigrants

Dana Morgan, born to Jamaican immigrants, represented Massachusetts when Trump owned the pageant.



AMANDA MIKELBERG @MetroNewYork amanda.mikelberg@metro.us

Born to Jamaican immigrants, Ďana Morgan's first American dream was when she was a child living in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, watching Vanessa Williams crowned Miss America 1984. It was the first time an African-American woman captured that title.

"I thought about the day I would go from typical girl to being a princess and wearing a tiara, and I said to myself, 'I'm going to be on that stage one day," said Morgan, who is now an attorney living in Atlanta.

In 2001, Morgan, who was Dana Powell at the time, moved closer to that goal by becoming the first African-American woman to represent Massachusetts in the Miss USA pageant. Donald Trump owned the pageant at the time, and she recalls her "boss" as having a rare, commanding and powerful presence. She did not finish in the top 10.

To say that much has changed since those pageant days for both Trump and Morgan would be an understatement.

Now, President Donald Trump is moving to deport millions of illegal immigrants, while Morgan is representing some of those people striving for their own piece of the American dream. Morgan, 37, recently opened an immigration law practice in

"I had my eureka moment last year," she told Metro. "Initially, my passion was for abused women and children, and I still have that passion. But my heart moved in a new direction last year when my grandfather, the patriarch of the family, passed away. It was their story [her grandparents] of coming to this country that made me realize this is what I have to do."



Morgan chuckles when she thinks of her experiences as being a Miss USA contestant for a Trump-owned organization, and now being an immigration attorney "considering everything that's going on.'

She started her law practice in late January, just as the president was moving to sign executive orders banning travelers from seven predominantly Muslim countries. What she discovered was the fear that the order instilled in people, whether or not the immigrants were from the affected countries.

Her priority is to address Trump's executive orders targeting undocumented immigrants and his new policy, which could result in the deportation of millions of undocumented immigrants for minor crimes.

On Friday, Morgan will participate in the launch of the Jamaica Diaspora Immigration and Deportation Prevention Task Force in the Bronx, to address immigration rights and the benefits of becoming a U.S. citizen. It takes place at 6 p.m., at Bronx Bethany Church of the Nazarene, 971 E. 227th St.

"If it were not for our immigration laws, I am not sure I would have had the opportunities my parents and I were afforded," Morgan said.

Americans, she added, want to be safe and secure, so national security should always be among the priorities. But whatever the government does, Morgan said, "has to be constitutionally sound, and has to make sense, and it's my hope that our leadership will execute the law of the land

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Big bird sighted in **Central Park** isn't Big Bird

The man dressed as a large yellow canary says he legally cannot pretend to be the "Sesame Street" character.



If you go bird watching in Central Park, you might catch a rare canary sighting.

You can spot the big yellow bird from across Wollman Rink. If you peer through binoculars, you'll see him sitting on a bench with his blue monster friend. If you're able to get closer, you can even have your picture taken with him.

Cristian, the man behind the bird, said he sits on the bench and doesn't ask for money. The sign says \$5 for a photo and that tips are appreciated, but he never asks — kids and adults come up to him, "feed" the blue monster a bill and say cheese.

He said that he cannot legally say that he's Big Bird from "Sesame Street" — though he bears a striking resemblance to that big yellow fowl.

Originally from Peru, Cristian has been dressing in the costume for money in New York City for about four years, he told Metro. After losing his restaurant and bar in 2013, he needed a way to make money. His cousin gave him a costume to try for a month and Cristian found his

next calling. He now lives in Orlando and takes cheap flights to the city, sits with his hand in the air — to hold up the bird's head — six to eight hours a day for three or four days.

"The first day I started doing it, it was painful," Cristian said. Now he is used to it and he makes enough money to support his wife and kids for at least two weeks.

"I won't tell you the amount, but it's like being a professional," he said. "But it wasn't like that when I started. When I started, it was even more, I guess, but then with all the things that happened in Times Square and the bad reputation, I stopped making money, so that's why I decided to try to be more entertaining. I learned from puppeteers; I made my own costume. Now, I'm making more than ever, to be honest with you.'

And making money in a big yellow bird costume is legal, according to the city's Parks Department. Cristian is considered an "expressive matter vendor," like a performance artist or caricature artist, so he can hang out and accept tips, which the blue monster gobbles up from outstretched hands.

Times Square, according to Cristian, is for the birds. "Whoever [solicits in Times Square| and asks money for pictures, just put a costume on. I don't like that. I try to entertain.'

This might be the last year for this big yellow bird and blue monster duo. Cristian said he is going for his real estate license in Florida, which beats getting punched in the head by a punk kid.

"Most people are nice. Sometimes they bother me," Cristian admitted. "Most of the time, 95 percent of the time I'm here, people are nice."

For our exclusive video interview, visit metro.us

Which cities are the most — and least — diverse?



The Statue of Liberty with the skyline of lower Manhattan GETTY IMAG

WalletHub examined 501 cities based on ethnicity and race, birthplace and language.



Immigration, refugees and race have been thrust into the spotlight in the U.S. and across the globe since President Donald Trump took office last month.

He has issued executive orders that have included moving forward on the construction of the wall along Mexico's border, banning refugees and travelers from seven mostly Muslim nations and possible mass deportations.

While it's too soon to tell the long-term effects Trump's policies will have on the diversity of a country that has long been called a cultural melting pot, WalletHub took a look at its current demographics to see just how diverse we really are.

The personal finance website analyzed 501 of America's biggest cities based on ethnicity and race, birthplace and language to give each a "Cultural Diversity Score."

While its prime view of the immigrant icon known as the Statue of Liberty may not have played a part in Wal-letHub's study, Jersey City, New Jersey, ranked No. 1 overall as the most

diverse city.

Rounding out the overall top-five are three Maryland towns in the Washington, D.C., metro region — Ger-mantown, Gaithersburg and Silver Spring — and Spring Valley, Nevada. New York appears at No. 6, while Boston ranked

The five least diverse cities include two from West Virginia, Parkersburg and Clarksburg; followed by Watertown, South Dakota; Hialeah, Florida; and Rutland, Vermont.

For cities with more than 300,000 people, New York is the most diverse, while Boston ranked 8th and Philadelphia came in 29th.

Other notable findings

- · Oakland, California, features the highest racial and ethnic diversity, which is four times more than Hialeah, Florida, the lowest.
- With 96 percent of its residents Hispanic or Latino, 92 percent of the population of Hialeah speaks Spanish. The Florida city also has the largest number of foreignborn residents, with 72.75 percent.
- Rutland has the biggest white population, with 65.45 percent, while Gary, Indiana, at 81.41 percent, has the largest black population.
- More than 87 percent of Greenville, Mississippi's population was born in-

CLOSE TIES?

Watchdog: Emails show connection between new EPA head, energy firms

Emails released by the Oklahoma attorney general's office show a cozy relationship between energy companies and Scott Pruitt, who was the state's top prosecutor before being sworn in last week as the new chief U.S. environmental regulator, a media watchdog group said on Wednesday.

The Center for Media and Democracy has sought the

release of emails between energy companies and Pruitt for the past two years, saying they show energy companies drafted language that Pruitt's attorney general office then used in suing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the office he now heads, over regulations on energy operations.

The center had sued Pruitt on Feb. 7, ahead of the Senate vote to confirm his nomination by President Donald Trump, to release the records detailing his communications with energy companies.

The attorney general's office released more than 7,500 pages of emails late on Tuesday, holding back an unknown number of documents it called exempted or privileged. Oklahoma Judge Aletia Timmons is reviewing those documents, but there is no set time for when or if they would be released.

Among the documents released were communications between Devon Energy and

Pruitt's office that suggest the company gave the Oklahoma officials language on limits on methane emissions at oil and gas operations. Pruitt's office then used this language in suing the EPA over the regulations, the documents suggest.

Devon serves as a resource with information and expertise for decision makers, and its contact with Pruitt was consistent with its policy of engaging with policymakers, company spokesman John Porretto said. REUTERS



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Most Vein Treatments Covered by Major Health Insurances including Medicare

Baby Boomers May Avoid Knee Surgery With Modern Arthritis Treatments Doctors say these two factors are the keys to knee arthritis treatment success and relieving pain without surgery

By Matt Edgar

America's Health Writer

New York City - Everyone has said it at one time or another. If I had only known about "this" sooner - things would be very different today.

That's what many knee arthritis pain sufferers are saying about this technology and treatment.

"We all know that countless lives are being saved every year because of early detection and better treatment" noted the clinic director at the NY Pain MD in New York City. "The same holds true for treating arthritis pain. I believe we are having so much success at NY Pain MD because of two factors: One is we are using advanced medical technology and treatments a lot of clinics do not use. And second, the word has spread to our community and so many knee arthritis sufferers are coming in sooner. And the earlier we can treat knee arthritis the better the results. The key to trying to avoid knee replacement surgery is doing the correct treatment as soon as possibly

What is the "correct treatment?"

"That depends," said the director. "There is no one answer when it comes to medical conditions. Knee arthritis is no different. That's why, if you have knee pain, you should have it evaluated by a doctor who deals with and treats knee pain every day," added the director.

For many knee arthritis pain sufferers the right treatment is Viscosupplementation whereby a preparation of Hyaluronic acid a gel-like FDA approved medicine is applied directly into the knee joint using *Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology*.

Hyaluronic acid is the natural lubricant and shock absorber of your joints and is found to be decreased in arthritis sufferers. This is similar to running your without oil. Obviously, the sooner you put oil back in the car - the less damage will be done. That's why some doctors feel early viscosupplecosupplementation gets the best results and is so important for avoiding surgery.

The director believes one of the most important factors for the success of viscosupplementation is making sure you are getting it into the joint space precisely. That's why the doctors at *NY Pain MD* use advanced imaging technology to apply *Precision Arthritis Targeting* during every treatment.

A device called the "C-Arm" allows the doctor to see into the joint and actually watch the medicine be applied exactly where it is supposed to. Research shows that performing procedures without Precision Arthritis Targeting (P.A.T.T.)can result in missing the joint space as much as 30% of the time. If you had viscosupplementation treatments without Presision Arthritis Targeting Technology and did not get good results - this may be why.

"If you have knee arthritis pain, viscosupplementation might be the answer you are looking for. The keys are not wait, get a good evaluation from an expert and make sure precision arthritis targeting is used to make sure you have the best chance for success."



Can This Be Avoided? Total knee replacement is serious surgery requiring months of rehabilitation. Some doctors think modern treatments done early enough can keep baby boomers from going under the knife.



Normal Pain-Free Knee Joint Everyone Wants Proof:

In the artist simulated drawings, picture #1 is a normal, pain-free knee. There is no arthritis and the knee can move and bend freely without pain.



Knee With Painful Arthritis

Illustration shown is a knee joint with painful xosteo-arthritis. Arthritis causes the joint space to decrease, grinding, stiffness, decreased motion, bone spurs, swelling and a lot of pain.



Research Shows Doctors Miss The Joint Space Up To 30% Of The Time Without Advanced Imaging Failed Treatment -

The injection (Lubrication medicine) misses the joint space. Research shows this occurs up to 30% of the time without the use of the Hologic digital imaging to guide the injection. This is why lubrication medicine may not have worked for you



Lubrication Medicine Injected Directly Into Knee Join Like "Joint Oil" using Precision Targeting Technology Successful Treatment -

Sucessful Treatment - Lubrication Medicine (blue) being precisely injected directly into the knee joint using Hologic digital imaging. Advance imaging allows treatments to be as precise as possible. Lubrication medicine can lubricate the joint and decrease pain.

Knee Pain Screenings Offered To Help Determine If New York Metro Area Residents Qualify For Popular Treatment

Knee pain sufferers have limited time to claim knee pain screening to see if all-natural knee arthritis treatment might work for them

If you qualify for this treatment, it might be one of the happiest days of your life.

That's because, for the past year and a half, hundreds of knee pain sufferers have flocked to *NY Pain MD* New York City.

That's when their specially trained-doctors added Hyalgan treatments to their already successful comprehensive knee pain relief program.

Viscosupplementation is unique because - eventhough it is manufactured by a pharmaceutical company, it is NOT considered a drug because it is a natural substance with an incredible story.

Why So Many Want It

You see, when you suffer with arthritis - the lubricating fluid (synovial fluid) in your knee joint dries up.

This means instead of gliding smoothly - your bones start to rub and grind against each other.

This causes a little pain in the beginning - but over time the pain steadily gets worse until it is excruciating.

Like "Joint Oil"

Viscosupplementation works so well because it is like 'joint oil." It is a natural substance that contains one of the natural building blocks of the synovial fluid that lubricates your knee.

Scientists and researchers discovered this natural building block to synovial fluid in the rooster's comb - that big red thing on top of the roosters head. It is extracted from the roosters comb, purified and concentrated. They have also developed medical lubricants that are also natural but made a bit like yogurt and "cultured" into highly effective arthritis pain-fighting medical lubricants.

When introduced directly into your knee joint, it is like squirting oil on a rusty door hinge.

Viscosupplementation allows your joints to glide more smoothly eliminating a lot of the rubbing, grinding and pain.

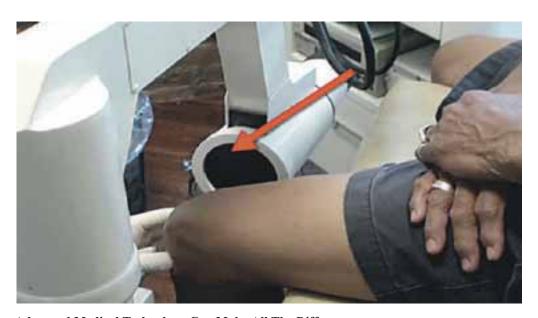
Can Supplements Do The Same Thing?

No. Glucosamine and chondroitin and other supplements are much different. You can only get this from a doctor and it often helps knee pain sufferers who got limited or no success from glucosamine and chondroitin. Beware of unsubstantiated claims made by supplements to do what this advanced medical procedure does.

Why You Should Try This Even If You've Already Had Similar Treatments Without Results...

"We have been able to help so many knee pain sufferers - even many who have already tried other treatments like Synvisc, Supartz, Orthovisc and even Hyalgan. This is because our treating doctors always use "Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology". This allows us to place the Viscosupplementation exactly where is needs to be. Studies show doctors doing joint injections without technology can miss the joint up to 30% of the time." noted the Director of Center

NY Pain MD is a state of the art medical facility offering only the best technology.



Advanced Medical Technology Can Make All The Difference: This advanced Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology using fluorososcopic imaging allows doctors to see directly into the knee joint so treatments are precise and the FDA approved lubricating medicine actually goes EXACLTY where it is supposed to. Studies show that procedures done without this technology can miss the joint up to 30% of the time. This is one reason Viscosupplementation may not have worked for you in the past. NY Pain MD uses this P.A.T. Imaging Technology. with each and every treatment.

And that's not all:

"Every case is individual. Some patients get quite a bit of relief right away - others take a little more time. But most have been extremely happy. We've noted results lasting no less than 6 months for many but up to 2 years for some patients. Patients who were suffering for years with bad knee pain are getting their lives back... going for walks again and exercising. It's amazing to see. They tell all their friends - that's why we are swarmed. After getting treatment and feeling better, many patients have decided to cancel their total knee replacement surgeries." added the director.

How To Find Out If It Can HelpYou?

If you have knee pain, the *NY Pain MD* doctors would like to invite you for a no-obligation screening to see if you are a candidate for their treatments using *Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology*.

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right now and when the scheduling specialist answers the phone tell her you would like your no obligation "Knee Pain Screening." The doctors at *NY Pain MD* can only accept a limited amount of new patients each month for this screening - so if you are interested please call now. Your no obligation screening will only take about 25-30 minutes... you will get all your questions answered and leave knowing if you have possibly found the solution to your knee pain.

And here's something really important - Viscosupplementation treatments are covered by most insurance, union plans and even medicare. To schedule your no obligation screening or if you have any questions:

Call: 8 0 0 8 8 5 K N E E (5633)

Are You Qualified For Knee Arthritis Screening With NYC Pain MD?

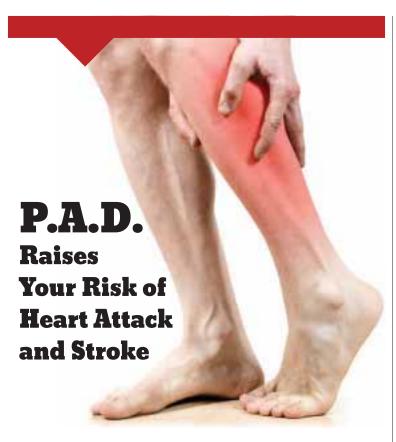
- Do you have pain and osteoarthritis (arthritis) of the knee?
- Have you tried other treatments such as NSAIDS and other anti-inflamatory medications without success?
- Have you already tried viscosupplementation (Hyalgan, Suparz, Synvisc) without satisfactory results?

If you answered yes to any of these questions
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your no obligation knee pain screening

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- ✓ Slower growth of your toenails
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- ✓ No pulse or a weak pulse in your legs or feet
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NYPD's 'hipster cop' retiring after 25 years

New York City's "hipster cop" is hanging up his skinny jeans and turning in his badge on Friday, according to reports.

Det. Rick Lee, who became a meme sensation during Occupy Wall Street in 2011, put in his papers in January and has been using vacation days since, the New York Daily News reported.

"Not to put down my brethren, but cops aren't exactly known for dressing well," Lee told DNAinfo. "I knew that I didn't dress like a typical cop, so I guess I stood out."

His style might have helped the 50-year-old community affairs detective act as a liaison between the NYPD and trendy businesses and residents in trendy neighborhoods in the 1st Precinct like Tribeca and SoHo. "No one ever gets that I'm a cop, and I think that's OK," the Staten Island resident told DNAinfo. "[My style] breaks down a lot of walls, and I think I'm able to put people at ease, and that's part of what I do."

News that he was not a "spy," as some bloggers wrote, when Occupy Wall Street took over Zuccotti Park. "It was funny how that whole thing kind of grew, that hipster cop thing," he said. "I wasn't a spy, but it's the internet and free speech and people can write whatever they want." On Friday, Lee loses his "superpowers," and — for the first time since he was 14 years old — he doesn't "have to be anywhere or do anything.



Lee added that he plans to hang out with his sheepdog, Bertie, and travel for the first time to California and Europe. "In the original sense, that a hipster is someone who doesn't conform to the norms, I think it does describe me," Lee told DNAinfo. "And yes, I do wear skinny jeans."

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Date: Thursday, February 23.

Time: Interactive Session, 5:00pm - 6:00pm;

Hockey Panel, 6:00pm - 7:00pm.

Moderator: Natalie Azar, NBC News medical contributor.

Panelists: Dr. Arthur Caplan, medical ethicist; Dr. Dennis Cardone, Concussion Center co-director; Josephine Pucci, former U.S. Hockey Olympian; Dr. Arlene Silverio, youth hockey concussion program coordinator; Christopher Cosentino, NYU men's ice hockey coach; Greg Wyshynski, Hockey Journalist.

Location: NYU Langone Medical Center. 550 First Avenue. Alumni B. **RSVP:** This lecture is free and open to the public, but you must RSVP. To attend, email izabela.averyt@nyumc.org or call 646.501.7749.



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Dozens defy deadline to leave Dakota pipeline protest camp

A few dozen demonstrators opposed to the Dakota Access pipeline defied a Wednesday deadline to leave a protest camp they have occupied for months to demand an end to construction of the project, saying they were prepared to be arrested.

President Donald Trump has pushed for the completion of the multibillion-dollar pipeline since he took office last month, despite objections from Native Americans and environmental activists who say it threatens the water resources and sacred land of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

Republican Gov. Doug Burgum and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had set a 2 p.m. CST deadline for protesters to leave the Oceti Sakowin camp, located on Army Corps land in Cannon Ball, North Dakota.

As freezing rain and snow fell, some demonstrators ceremonially burned tents and other structures at the camp in what they said was a tradition before leaving a dwelling place. But others said they were going nowhere.

Around three dozen protesters gathered near the camp entrance as the deadline passed. About 20 police vehicles waited up the road and a few dozen protesters remained in other parts of the camp, a Reuters witness said.

"I feel as though now is the time to stand our ground," said Alethea Phillips, 17, a demonstrator from Michigan who has spent three months at the camp.

Chase Iron Eyes, a Standing Rock Sioux member, said the detention of protesters would not dampen their determination.

"There are a lot of grandmothers, there are a lot of women [at the camp]. ... There are people who have shown



The Oceti Sakowin protest camp on Wednesday in Cannon Ball, North Dakota, GETTY IMAGES

up to stand in solidarity with them," he said in a video broadcast. "You can't arrest a movement. You can't arrest a spiritual revolution."

Protesters and law enforcement have clashed multiple times and hundreds of people have been arrested since demonstrations began in August.

The Standing Rock Sioux asked protesters to leave the area in December as they challenged the pipeline plans in court, but some 300 demonstrators had remained. REUTES



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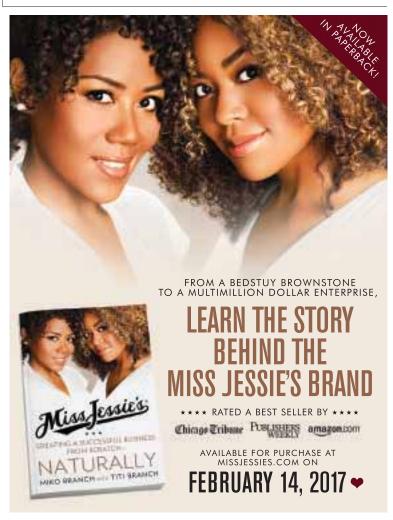
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Amber Tamblyn is having fun with kid's name



Funkinstein Mustard Witch RBG Cross Tamblyn-Bey Jr. #TheFuture-IsFemale.

Lots of news outlets are taking this name very seriously, and even suggesting that maybe the nickname Mustard Witch isn't so bad; but Tamblyn and Cross, 52, have a history of being pretty hilarious.

Congratulations to the happy couple, and to RBG Cross Tamblyn-Bey Jr. herself for having the best parents.

Lauryn Hill is now a grandmother



Picture this: It's 1998. Lauryn Hill's debut solo album, "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill" is changing your entire life. One of your favor-ite songs is "To Zion," a beautiful and tender ode to Hill's first child. Carlos Santana lends



the track an understated lil' twang. You sit in your bedroom, one tear falling down your face in slow motion, thinking, "Man, this song is really, really lovely. Remember that?

Well just in case you want to feel superold,

let me tell you something: Lauryn Hill, 41, is a grandmother now, because Zion — the subject of that wonderful song — just had a freaking baby.

It's been 20 years since Hill penned the song, and now her eldest son is 19 years old and a father to his first child. According to Billboard, Zion welcomed his son Zephaniah last week, continuing the family trend of using exotic and deep sounding names from the

Zion is one of five children between Hill and Rohan Marley. There's also Sarah, Selah, John and Joshua.

Kim Kardashian squashes sex-tape rumors

For some reason, there's a rumor that Kim Kardashian has filmed a new sex tape. According to Daily Mail, rumors of an "explicit video" starring the 36-year-old reality star were reported by Britain's Mirror newspaper. Apparently the leaked footage is mostly just Kardashian sitting on a bed in some — probably unnecessarily elaborate — lingerie. But her rep told the Daily Mail it's not true: "It's the same old tape." If

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

> you somehow don't remember, Kardashian found fame after her sex tape with thenboyfriend Ray J was

leaked and distributed. It's the whole reason we've been blessed with the Kardashian clan as America's most famous, most divisive, most annoying realitytelevision family. Honestly? We do not thank Kim Kardashian enough. The mother of two has slowly been making her way back on social media after her terrible ordeal in Paris. So yeah, I don't think a sex tape is really in the cards for her right now. She's kind of moved beyond that, don't you think?



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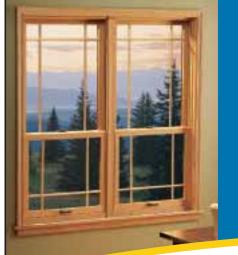
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Allison Williams' life after Marnie



Allison Williams plays a woman who doesn't tell her parents that her current boyfriend (Daniel Kaluuya) is black in Jordan Peele's horror film "Get Out." אוואט אוואס אוואס אוואס איני אוואס אוו

The "Girls" alum finally gets to break into the movies with "Get Out."



TV isn't just a huge time-suck for viewers; same goes for TV actors. Because she's spent six seasons as Marnie on 'Girls," Allison Williams hasn't had the chance to do any movies. At least her first is "Get Out," the directorial debut of Jordan Peele (of "Key & Peele") and a bracing and scathing film about race in America in the form of a terrifying

horror movie. She plays Rose, a woman taking her boyfriend Chris (Daniel Kaluuya) to meet her parents in the suburbs. They don't know he's black, and pretty soon Chris begins to suspect something very, very weird is afoot.

How was making your first movie?

The biggest difference was realizing I only had about 15 minutes total to introduce an audience to a person, rather than six years to ease them into someone like Marnie. Those first scenes became really important, just in terms of giving people a good sense of who she is very quickly. Which sounds really obvious if you've done a million movies, but for me it was a bizarre challenge.



wait to



Another big first for you is that it's a big movie, meaning it plays theaters, not on TVs or personal devices or however people want to see it.

see what happens with

them with time. But

I think a movie like this is best consumed in a group of strangers in a theater. On "Girls," I've always been pretty realistic about the ways people consume it. My emphasis on seeing it live, because it's not like a "Red Wedding" spoilery show, is much more intense now that I'm working with material that should be seen in a theater when it comes out - not on your laptop or your iPad at some point. That's not obvious immediately, because ["Get Out"] doesn't have a lot of CGI or effects. It's more about the communal experience if anything. If you're going to watch it at home,

Talk after the movie. not during it

Another benefit of seeing it in a group, not solo, is all the discussions you have about it when it's over.

Dinner conversations afterwards are pretty good for this movie. You get to sift through what's actually going on.

I don't want to say watching it now makes it very different, but only because it was still terribly relevant when you made it a year ago. can't think of a time when this wouldn't be timely, which is really sad. An easy point of comparison is "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner." That was made 50 years ago and it's still relevant. It doesn't reflect flatteringly on progress in general. But now's a good time. If it were six months ago or six months from now, it would still spark conversations we sadly need to have.

have people over as a group. Then you have the call-and-response with the movie itself.

How did you react to seeing yourself on a big screen?

I got really emotional when I saw the Universal logo. Which surprised me, because it just means, in my associative brain, that it's an official movie. [Laughs] I was like, "Oh my gosh, I'm in a real honest-to-god movie!" It's sounds really weird, but that was my reaction to it.



Let's all binge-watch 'Supernatural'



Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles have spent a dozen years battling monsters on "Supernatural." THE CW



I've been binge-watching "Supernatural" for a project. I used to watch it live, years ago, but sort of fell off of the train. It's been lovely to rediscover what I'd

missed. So I wanted to write about the show that lately has made my evenings a blast.

I've talked before about the joy of bingewatching old shows you used to love. Having "Friends" on in the background is soothing. I know the lines. I've heard all the jokes. And yet I still laugh — the familiarity is relaxing in

a world that is kind of a mess. With "Supernatural" though, I've got a ton of seasons I haven't seen and a world I can completely immerse myself in.

If you haven't watched it yet, it's the story of brothers Sam and Dean (Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles), whose mother was killed by a demon when they were little. The kids were trained by their father to hunt and destroy demons, ghosts and other supernatural creatures. (It's gotten a lot more complicated over the years, but that's the basic idea.)

I wrote last week about how the 22-episode model doesn't really work anymore. Though there are definitely filler episodes, this show has a depth to its mythology that few others have. Some seasons were procedurals. Some have a much deeper through line. The relationships have had time to build up over the years, and 12 seasons in, it feels like you've known these guys forever.

There is something about a show with a vast mythology that gets people hooked. "Supernatural" has urban legends, ghost stories, angels and other things with sometimes thousands of years of history. Some of them are stories you might have heard from grandparents. Some of the ghosts and ghouls are new. Either way, it's a show full of fun facts that stick in your head. You can take a deep dive into these things and spend half the night on Ŵikipedia.

It's been fun taking a break from the world, peeling back the fictional layers of reality and getting to know characters that have been around for years. So, who wants to marathon it with me?

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NYC Beer Week looks beyond the city limits to find more great brews.



EVA KIS @thisiskis

Everyone in New York, including its breweries, likes to think we're the best at whatever we do. While that's certainly true, NYC Beer Week is taking a different approach to this year's festivities, which span over 400 events from Feb. 24 to March 5.

"New York City is not insular; it's a very exploratory city. People like to try new things," says Kelly Taylor, president of the festival's organizing group, the New York City Brewers Guild, and brewmaster at KelSo.

"Beer Week is about the culture of beer in New York City, which is much bigger than our borders."

gather more people around the keg, Beer Week is holding its first-ever Fermentation Festival, a celebration of all the things beer and beyond that wouldn't exist without yeast and other helpful bacteria, featuring 30 home brewers. And for its awards party on March 4, the Ruppert's Cup, guild invited members some of their favorite breweries in the state and beyond to collaborate on totally new, one-off beers. It's a chance for brewers to exchange ideas and keep the scene fresh, while New York drinkers get to taste something totally new.

"We're creating a culture that will only help grow the industry," says Taylor.

With hundreds happening events throughout the 10 days of NYC Beer Week, from tap takeovers to pairing dinnere and even farmer talks, we found a few more highlights.



Rockaway Simultap with Kimchi Smoke

It's rare that we envy our neighbors across the Hudson, but it's true that New Jersey has something we don't: Kimchi Smoke, the South Korean barbecue joint known for dishes like ramen fried chicken and the Chonut, the ultimate in savory doughnut sandwiches. During Beer Week, it'll head across the river to Rockaway Brewing Co.'s Long Ísland

City taproom for a night of ridiculous food and the kind of beers that'll have you remembering beach weather is almost here again. Pay as you go, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., 4601 Fifth St., Long Island City

What's trending While IPAs are still going

strong, the softer style created on the East Coast is taking over. "They're dank, to be honest, typically unfiltered and hazy," says Taylor. One notable brewer of the style is Gun Hill Brewery in the Bronx, which had a breakout year in 2016 with the massive success of Rise Up Rye, its collaboration brew with the cast of "Hamilton."

There's also something of a throwback movement happening in beer, with more brews being aged in liquor barrels and the return of a 1,000-year-old style: sour beers, which let in wild yeast during brewing. Beer Week has several events showcasing only this style of beer. Good news: It's usually low ABV (otherwise the taste would be too sharp), so they're great for tasting

Namaste at the Brewery

Chasing a session of yoga with a craft beer is the trendiest way to exercise, but there's a new suds-saluting club in town doing things a little differently. Originally from the West Coast, Beer + Yoga has finally arrived in New York with classes that require you to balance not just yourself, but a pint of beer in themed poses like Drunken Warrior and Earn Your Beer. Oh, and you're also drinking between them! The first session will be at Finback Brewery in Queens; beginners welcome, BYO mat, ticket includes one pint of beer. \$20-\$25, Feb. 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 7801 77th Ave.

Beer Week's challenge beers, known as SMaSH brews. This year, the "S" in SMaSH stands for "single," meaning all 15 competing breweries had to use the same single malt and single hop to create their beers - though you may not know it from the results, which range from sweet Belgian saisons to the driest Imperial IPAs.

\$12-\$70, Feb. 25, 5:30-

Center, 72 Noble St.

9:30 p.m., Brooklyn Expo

Opening Bash

This is always the biggest

over 50 breweries partici-

party of the event, with

pating and food curated

by LIC Flea. It's also the

only place to taste all of

Fast-casual Ikinari Steak shakes up the steakhouse model

New York's newest steakhouse is standing room only — even before it

opens. Japan's wildly popular fast-casual chain İkinari Steak, which has no chairs, appetizers or desserts, opens today at 90 10th St. in Astor Place. The straightforward menu consists of three cuts of steak sold by the gram (8 cents for sir-

loin, 9 cents for

ribeye, 11 cents

for filet) and four sides: beef soup, green salad, Japanese radish salad, rice (all \$2) and garlic pepper rice (\$6). Simply put, "I'm

appealing to human instinct," says owner Kunio Ichinose,

who started the chain in December 2013 after spending 44 years in Japanese steakhouses. Ikinari now has over 100

locations. "When people are hungry, they want a thick steak," he explains about the no-frills menu. And they want it fast you're meant to get in and out in 30 minutes - without paying too

Nothing about the model was changed for Ikinari's first New York location. Drinks and sides are ordered from waiters; for the steak, step up to a butcher counter, where the meat (wet aged for 40 days) is cut and weighed for your approval. The meat is

flame grilled, and arrives on a sizzling griddle with corn and onions.

Ikinari's prices work out to about \$20 for a 7-ounce filet, and while it won't replace your annual Father's Day trip to Keans, on our visit, the filet and sirloin were both moist and delicious even before the addition of any sauces. Go for the Ikinari sauce, a slightly sweet take on A1 that may just become your new favorite condiment, or their signature soy sauce-based J-Steak.



Ikinari Steak wet-ages its meat for 40 days (this is the filet). BRANDON HARDI

CIRCUS

"Out of This World"

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus is closing up the big top after its final national tour, after a 146-year run. This week at Barclays Center is your last local chance to catch its famous clowns, animals and acrobats. The show's cast spans 20 countries, and features ice skating for the very first time. Feb. 23-March 3, 620 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, \$16-\$150, rinolina.com

CONVERSATION

Redefining "Native New Yorker"

How can you tell if someone's a New Yorker? They'll tell you! Jokes aside, your definition might change after a night of Ryan "Little Eagle" Pierce talking about the Lenape tribe, meeting Hawaii's Kaina Quena who's keeping hula culture alive in the Big Apple, and more. Feb. 23, 7:30-10 p.m., City Reliquary Museum, 370 Metropolitan Ave., Brooklyn, \$10, cityreliquary.org

FOOD

Charcuterie Masters

Find some new sausages, salamis, pates and other meat candy



"Sweeney Todd"

A new immersive version of the murderous barber's tale is opening at Barrow Street Theatre, which has been converted into a pie shop with the option to eat dinner while you watch.

Mar. 1-Aug. 13, 27 Barrow St., \$125-\$145, barrowstreettheatre.com

goodies for your next dinner party at this competitive walk-around tasting. Riches like oysters and cheese, plus dishes by local chefs and wine, craft beers and ciders between bites are also included. Feb. 24, 6-10 p.m., Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd., Queens, \$60-\$180 nycepicureanevents.com

Znackers World Snack Tour

If you never stopped loving Pocky, this snack blitz is for you. In one hour, you can try some of the most unusual and best snacks from 10 countries, including Korea, Mexico, Japan, Italy, China, Thailand, France and more. Kids get to pick and sample five snacks, and adults can select 10. Feb. 25, 4-5 p.m., 48 Wall St., \$10-\$20, znackers.com

Passage to South India

Ganesh Temple in Queens is best known for its magnificently carved 50-foot tower rising above an otherwise ordinary residential block in Flushing. A close second in fame is its basement canteen, which will be serving up a vegetarian feast in partnership with the Queens Dinner Club. \$35, Feb. 28, 7:15-10:15 p.m., 45-57 Bowne St., Queens, eventbrite.com

ARTS

"Marked Urgent"

Free press is essential for democracy, guys. But you don't have to take our word for it — check out this new exhibit at Ground Floor Gallery of works about freedom of expression and the First Amendment. Proceeds benefit the Committee to Protect Journalists. Feb. 24-26, 6-8:30 p.m., 343 Fifth St., Brooklyn, free, groundfloorbk.com

MUSIC

Whitney Houston Tribute Show

It feels way too fresh to be true, but five years have passed since Whitney Houston's sudden death. Her musical legacy is being celebrated by two divas in their own right, "America's Got Talent" semifinalist Alice Tan Ridley and the Bronx's own Ayanna Irish, accompanied by a full band for at the Highline Ballroom. Feb. 25, 8 p.m., \$20-\$35, 431 W. 16th St., highlineballroom.com

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3 PM - Hannah, Faith to Pray

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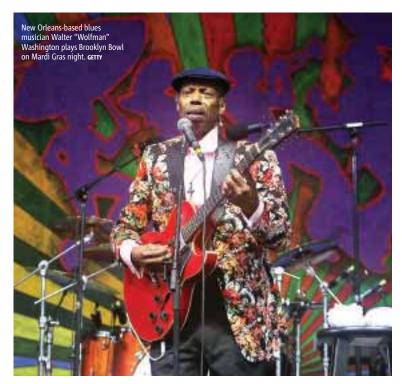
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New Orleans-native approved parties and events.



I'm from New Orleans, but when carnival season hits and I'm not there, I'm usually not interested in entertaining any saccharine takes outside of my hometown. Call me the authenticity police, or a snob, but I tend to avoid any Mardi Gras celebrations promising an "authentic NOLA experience.

That being said, there



Where to celebrate **Mardi Gras in NYC**

are a few New Orleansleaning establishments around New York town that have earned my loyalty. Typically, it has something to do with their nailing ambience, grub or music.

So, here are a handful of Mardi Gras parties in New York City that I can sincerely recommend/ don't hate the sound of.

But you don't have to listen to me! Take a page from the Rebirth Brass Band and "Do Whatcha Wanna."

Mardi Gras Partv with Tubby! at Bar Lunatico

The Bed-Stuy bar, cafe and music club will celebrate Fat Tuesday night with tunes from Tubby, a NYC-based five-piece band playing old-school New Orleans R&B that "borrows liberally" from Allen Toussaint's first album, "The Wild Sounds of New Orleans." Chef Devin, Creole specials, including creme de noyaux, aged white rum, curacao triple sec, bitters and a lemon twist. We love Lunatico. and as its owners are three musicians with ties

to the Crescent City and who regularly schedule New Orleans bands — or bands of the New Orleans diaspora — on the calendar, we fully trust they won't f- this one up. Bar Lunatico, 486 Halsey St., 8:30-11:30 p.m., \$10 suggested donation, barlunatico.

Mardi Gras at Heavy

At this Bushwick water-

ing hole, Simon Glenn

Saints games at d.b.a.

shuttered) has set up

his New Orleans-style

Shop, seven days a week.

brisket-duck liver boudin

pop-up, the Tchoup

Among our favorites:

balls, crawfish mac 'n'

cheese, and red beans

and rice (during brunch

it comes with fried eggs

and a biscuit). Mardi

Williamsburg before it

(who used to cook during

Woods Bar

announced specials from the Tchoup Shop and music from DJs Edward Askew and Chad Dubs of Get Summered. Heavy Woods, 50 Wyckoff Ave., "8 p.m.-IDGAF," free entry, facebook.com/heavy-

Brass, Sass & Ass at House of Yes

The sex-positive, costume-crazed "temple of expression"/Bushwick den of

id is consistently extra – just like Mardi Gras. We were won over by the name alone, but also the lineup of Idle Hands Brass Band, bounce music from lllexxandra and (likely clothing-scant) aerialist acts from Lady Circus. Bring it on. House of Yes, 2 Wyckoff Ave., 10 p.m.-3 a.m., free, houseofyes.org

Mardi Gras Week at Brooklyn Bowl

We have nothing bad to say about any chance to see some actual New Orleans bands. Sunday, Feb. 26 through Saturday, March 3, the Williamsburg bowling alley and concert hall has lined up concerts featuring New Orleans acts the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, the Soul Rebels and Walter "Wolfman" Washington and the Roadmasters (who hit the stage Tuesday night). Brooklyn Bowl, 61 Wythe Ave., prices and showtimes vary. brooklynbowl.com



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who normally puts out a Spanish-inspired small plate menu, will serve a tasso ham and shrimp gumbo and an andouille sausage appetizer with baguette, dijon mustard and sofrito. Beveragewise, they already have a French Quarter Crawl on their cocktail list: cognac,

Gras night, their party includes a tap takeover from Abita Brewery (\$5 pints), \$8 hurricanes (both regular and frozen), king cake, to-beThe lower half of Thailand is a trove of natural treasures.

FodorŚTrave

Tup Island

It may look like a lot of the islands you'll find in southern Thailand, with pristine white sand surrounded by turquoise water. But low tide reveals a sand bar that connects it to a neighboring island, which you can easily walk across while experiencing the ocean lapping at your feet from two directions. Accessible by boat from Ao Nang in the Krabi province, Tup Island is not to be missed.

Railay Beach

This is one of the most beautiful beaches in Thailand. Located on a peninsula between Krabi and Ao Nang, the beach is only accessible by boat due to the steep karst rock surrounding it — once there, a stroll through the magnificent and cavernous limestone



walkway is a must. There's also an area for rock climbing, and several nearby hotel restaurants.

Emerald Cave

Located on the west side of Koh Mook is the extraordinary Emerald Cave. Accessible only during a calm low tide, visitors swim through a dark craggy tunnel to get to the cave's hidden gem: a secret beach surrounded by lush cliffs and an emerald lagoon. Time your visit carefully, as high tide or bad weather will have you stuck waiting on the lagoon side or unable to visit completely.

Trang Night Market

Culinary delights in Trang don't end with dim sum. If you're adventurous (and even if you're not), a trip to the Weekend Night Market is worth your time.

Held right in front of the town's train station, this market's purveyors are more than happy to oblige your indulgences. From fresh fruits to crispy fried taro cakes and brightly colored jelly candies shaped like rubber duckies, the market has something for everyone. There's even a stall hawking fresh sushi. Some sellers speak English if you have questions about what's on the menu, and many of

the stalls have illustrated signs that communicate the main ingredient.

Koh Kradan

One of the more idyllic islands off the coast of Trang is Koh Kradan. This small island is an ideal destination for a day trip due to its tiny size (only a little less than two miles long) and serene setting. It's the perfect location for swimming or relaxing on the white soft sand. Because the island is off the beaten path, you won't run into many other tourists while visiting, which will allow you to pretend this tropical paradise is all yours.

Snorkeling

With water so clear, bright and inviting, snorkeling in southern Thailand is a must. Many hotels offer excursions to some of the best snorkeling spots just off the nearby islands, such as Koh Kradan and Koh Gai (translated into English it means Chicken Island, named after the unique rock formation that looks like a chicken's head).

Your ability to see the colorful and friendly schools of fish that inhabit the oceans here will be dependent on the weather conditions.

Thailand's largest swimming pool

Sure, the beaches in Thailand are some of the best in the world. But sometimes you just want to relax poolside, and Sofitel Krabi's got you covered. Located about 30 minutes from Krabi town, the resort's lagoon-style pool is the largest in Thailand at over 75,000 square feet. The pool also has a section just for kids and a swim-up bar.

Dining on Koh Mook

Dashing around islands and partaking in ocean activities will work up an appetite. When hunger strikes while you're on a day excursion, head to the Sivalai Beach Resort restaurant on Koh Mook. The food here is just as incredible as the dining room's ocean views. Koh Mook is also home to the Emerald Cave, on the other side of the island.







CONCUSSION CRISIS

It was only a matter of time before former NFL players began blaming reckless behavior on concussions and CTE. Cedric Benson, who was the fourth overall pick in the NFL Draft in 2005, was charged with driving while intoxicated last weekend in Texas. The 34-year-old former running back refused a field sobriety test, and when asked by a police officer to recite the alphabet, Benson said: "I can't do that because I played eight years in the NFL," according to the Austin-American Statesman.

Last year, Dr. Bennet Omalu told ABC News that he would bet his medical license that O.J. Simpson is

suffering from CTE. Omalu even went so far as to say O.J. had a higher risk of CTE because his head was

"If you have a bigger head that means your head is heavier," Omalu told People magazine. "That means the momentum of your impact would be big-ger. It's basic physics."

MR. MAYO

put mayonnaise on your

God bless American athletes who embrace being fat. Charles Barkley just wasn't the same when he got skinny for a minute a few years back. At least former Phillies great John

Kruk is opening his

Kruk still owns it. own Philly cheesesteak

shop this month (abso-

this long), and he says that you'll be able to

lutely unreal that it took

cheesesteak if you want to. What the F is more American than that?

of taste-testing," Kruk told PhillyMag. "I probably had three or four cheesesteaks just the other day. My favorite is with

American

cheese,

grilled onions,

had a lot of people question me about the mayo part. Remember though, 'We've been doing a lot Î'm not from Philly.' For the record, Kruk is

from West Virginia, where — yeah — they love them some white condi-

ketchup and mayo. ... I've

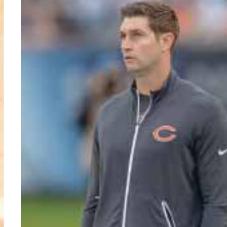


SMOKIN' JAY TO JETS?

There isn't an athlete alive with a more booable face than Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler. The "Smokin' Jay Cutler"meme is the stuff of legend, and Jets fans are going to need a cigarette after learning that Cutler could be on his way to New York. CBS Sports' Jason La Canfora mentioned

the Jets as a team that could have interest in the much-maligned QB if he's released by Chicago. The Jets apparently like him because he "can play in the elements that are a reality in the AFC East.' What that means is snow. The Jets usually play one game per year in snow, and Cutler wouldn't be bad in that spot.

Get excited.



INSTAGRAM 'ZINGER'

This season hasn't exactly gone as planned for Knicks star Kristaps Porzingis. His team is going to miss the playoffs yet again, they may trade his buddy Carmelo Anthony, and he's enduring something of a sophomore slump.

When in doubt? Make googly eyes at an Instagram model. Porzingis put a few eyeball emojis in

Instagram model Abigail Ratchford's (pictured) IG comments section Tuesday night and actually got a response from her. Ratchford responded with a kissing lips emoji, so that means they're definitely now dating.

The Zinger would be a step up for Ratchford literally and figuratively as she once allegedly hooked up with Johnny Manziel.



2017 NFL DRAFT SHOULD BE A LOADED ONE

In less than a week the next wave of NFL stars will gather in Indianapolis for the annual NFL Combine, showcasing their otherworldly skills in front of general managers, coaches and scouts. Potential draftees will do their best to make an impression on the brain trusts of NFL franchises and earn themselves either a selection in the draft or an invitation to training camp next season.

It seems that every year we hear about how talented that particular draft class is and this year is no different. Let's take a look at who will be making immediate impacts on the gridiron next season.

The defensive end/ edge defender has become one of the most coveted positions in the game thanks to the likes of Von Miller, Khalil Mack

SID ROSENBERG

OPINION

Sid Rosenberg co-hosts 'The Bernie and Sid Show' on WABC in New York. You can reach him on Twitter @SidRosenberg



and Jadeveon Clowney. The next name in the line of great pass rushers is Texas A&M defensive end Myles Garrett. Garrett stands 6-foot-5, weighs in at 270 pounds and has scouts drooling over his speed for a man of his stature. Many have compared Garrett to a Jevon Kearse with more speed. From catching some of Garrett's highlights over the past two seasons I would have to agree with that comparison. The guy is a monster and will no doubt be the No. 1 overall pick.

Another position that teams have taken more notice of in the draft in recent years is running back. For a while teams had no intentions of drafting a running back in the first round unless he was a can't-miss guy. Ezekiel Elliott changed that perception with a breakout rookie season for the Dallas Cowboys last year. Zeke went No. 4 overall in the 2016 draft, and though this year's running back class is strong,

I do not see a running back going in the top-five picks. I can tell you that LSU's Leonard Fournette will be the first running back taken and he will go in the top 10. Fournette has everything you would want in a power running back and is being compared physically to Adrian Peterson. The one knock on Fournette is his durability, but expect to seem him steamrolling and juking defenders when he does hit the field in 2017.

Though there are no Andrew Luck's or Carson Wentz's in this draft, there are a couple of QBs who could find themselves in a starting role within a couple of seasons. North Carolina's Mitch Trubisky is currently ranked as the top-rated quarterback by most experts and that says a lot about the



Texas A&M's Myles Garrett will likely go No. 1 overall. GETTY IMAGES

quarterback talent in this draft. The ceiling is not very high for Trubisky and the team that takes a chance on him will have to wait a couple years to see whether he pans out or not.

At the end of the day, the NFL combine is a place for players to raise their stock — performing exercises and drills that will supposedly translate to the level of play in the NFL. We all know that there are guys who have performed well at the Combine and amounted to nothing in the NFL. So I don't think it's the best gauge for players. But it is definitely entertaining to see how athletic and dynamic players are becoming.

Nelson's twisting journey to the NFL

Former Rutgers QB Philip Nelson has turned around his life.



KRISTIAN DYER @KristianRDyer sports@metro.us

Philip Nelson is back in New Jersey. The former Rutgers quarterback is just miles away from the campus where he was supposed to lead the team in the Big Ten. Nelson came to Rutgers in 2014 with two years of college football experience under his belt and was supposed to be a star with the Scarlet Knights, a high-profile transfer coming into the program to take the offense to another level.

Instead, a bar fight back home in Minnesota, just a few weeks before he was supposed to roll-out for training camp at Rutgers, nearly derailed not just his football career — but his entire life.

Nelson survived the fallout from that night,

plain and simple, unwilling to give up on his dreams of playing college football or someday being in the NFL Now he's a couple months away from the NFL Draft and training for his Pro Day at East Carolina. The buzz is that he will make an NFL roster this year.

It frankly should surprise no one given how he's emerged from the past three years.

He's a Sunday school teacher now and attends Bible study, a far cry from the image that was painted of him nationally following that fight outside a bar in Minnesota. The police report said that Nelson was involved in a fight on May 14 along with one of his friends and that someone at the center of the melee had hit the ground. He doesn't remember it but witnesses later told police that Nelson went up to and kicked the man on the ground in the head, doing so while the victim had a concussion.



Philip Nelson at East Carolina GETTY IMAGES

Days later Nelson was kicked off the team at Rutgers, his scholarship revoked. More importantly, he was facing possible prison time.

Football, such a big part of his life, seemed like a distant memory as he sat in jail following his arrest. It was quite a fall from grace.

After all, everything seemed pointed toward Nelson being the starting quarterback for Rutgers. He had just transferred into the program and would have to sit out a year, giving him two years left to play in the Big Ten. Incumbent starting quarterback Gary Nova was set to enter his final year

with the Scarlet Knights and if everything went as planned then Nelson, who was a starting quarterback in the Big Ten at Minnesota before transferring, would have two seasons to start for Rutgers.

Instead, that night in May outside a night club was poised to change everything

It wasn't widely reported but he was actually punched first, a sucker punch that triggered everything. It didn't matter much as the media latched onto the idea that he was the aggressor. Nelson doesn't make excuses for what happened that night, he doesn't try to dodge his involvement.

"I didn't just let myself down, more importantly I feel like I let my family down and my teammates at Rutgers," Nelson said. "It's not the way I try to conduct myself. First and foremost, I never should have put myself in a situation like that. And that's where I let my family down, myself down, my teammates down.

"Life is about experiences. You take those experiences and learn from them. Now being a 23-year-old and going through that, I feel like I've been through so much more. I've learned how to conduct myself at all times."

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MORTGAGE, LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE COMPANY, Plaintiff, Against SYLVAN DUNKLEY, ET AL.,

Defendant(s) Index No. 7869/2013

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered on 11/16/2016. I the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, the Queens County Supreme Court, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY in Courtroom #25 on 3/3/2017 at 10:00am, premises known as 120-18 230th Street. Cambria Heights, NY 11411 and described as follows: ALL that tract or parcel of land, situate in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York and Designated on the tax maps of the Queens County Treasurer as Block 12814 and Lot 95. The approximate amount of the Judgment lien is \$318,945.35 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Terms of Sale;

Index # 7869/2013 Joseph Trotti, Esq. Referee, SCHILLER, KNAP, LEFKOWITZ & HERTZEL, LLC 950 New London Road LATHAM NY 12110 Dated 12/14/2016 13-1638-0

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of OYA SOLAR NY, L.P. Application fo Authority filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/29/2016. Office location: Kings County.

L.P. formed in Delaware on 09/01/2016. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served.

SSNY shall mail process to the L.P. c/o Corporation Service Company, 80 State Street, Albany, NY 12207-2543 the registered agent upon whom process may be served:

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Across

- 1 Quaffs for tars
- 6 Earl "--" Hines 11 Mil. rank
- 14 He tried to beat the
- **Bushes**
- 15 Ess moldings 16 Cassius Clay
- 17 Mammoth dispatcher
- 18 Old Norse poems
- 19 Sixth notes
- 20 Vexed
- 22 Pitch-black
- 24 Shows up
- 28 Caterpillar feet?
- 29 Like moccasins
- 30 Dork
- 32 -- -majeste
- 33 "Pal Joey" author
- 35 Sita's husband, in myth
- 39 NFL broadcaster
- 40 Cato's hello
- 41 With, to Henri
- 42 Balance
- 43 Razorbacks
- 45 By oneself
- 46 Metal shackles
- 48 More yucky 50 Beaming
- 53 Travel will do it
- 54 Toes the line
- 55 Come to terms

7 Feverish chill metro.us /games

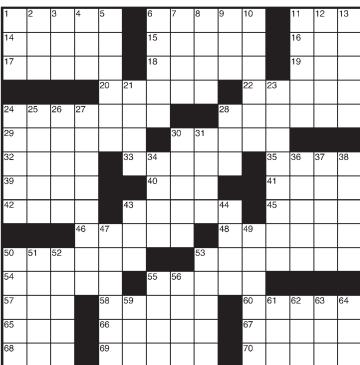
58 Ho Chi Minh city

- 60 Vexes
- 65 Always, to Keats
- 66 Singer -- John 67 Blue jay topper
- 68 Common ID
- 69 Offend the nostrils
- 70 Helena rival

Down

- 1 Location technique: abbr.
- 2 Standing, slangily
- 3 Miners dia it
- 4 -- -- few rounds
- 5 Make a big effort
- 6 Branches

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61 Form 1040 processors 62 Give the OK

8 Lean toward

10 Promise

13 Tallies

24 Better trained

25 Ms. Witherspoon

27 Find the mug shot

28 Kind of towel or party

34 Goldie of "Laugh-In"

44 Blarney Stone locale

51 Woodwind instruments

26 Says hoarsely

30 Geena or Bette

31 Brown bird

36 Shun

37 Rumpus

38 Oak, once

43 Earth's star

47 Marsh reeds

49 Strong-arm

50 Kids around

53 Cliff's edge

55 Debate side

52 Pine

56 Thug

59 Elev.

9 Start of a bray

11 Kind of lily

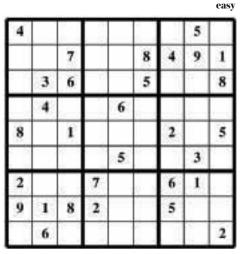
23 Kearney's place

12 Sporty fabric

21 Give a fresh look

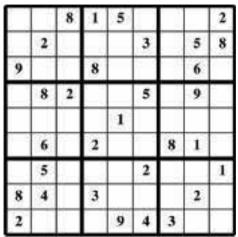
- 63 Flight dir.
- 64 Sault -- Marie

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hard



Aries What you do for others doesn't need to be broadcast. Let your actions speak for you. Opportunity will be yours if you do what's right. Fair play will win favors.



Taurus Don't get involved in the personal affairs of others. Meddling on your part will turn out to be costly. Stay focused on what you can do to make things better.



dreams will spark ideas that push you to make a difference. Improving your efficiency will lead to a new beginning. Cancer Don't take on too much or trust

someone to do things for you. The realiza-

tion that your future depends on your

actions will help you move forward.

Gemini Think big, but be reasonable. Your



Leo You can learn much from people of different backgrounds. Traveling and taking part in the pursuits of children and loved ones will be inspiring.

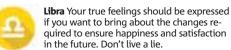


Virgo You must realistically look at your life and how you live it. If you have taken on too much, you need to ask for help or

Yesterday's answers														
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Scorpio Keep your emotions in check. If you are too revealing, someone will take advantage of your vulnerability. Make perfection and precision your goal, and signature.



Sagittarius Stay on track. You'll be easily distracted by what others say or do. Choose to do your own thing and set goals that will help you get ahead.



Capricorn Follow your instincts. Problems when dealing with foreigners, institutions or authority figures will arise if you travel or get involved with unpredictable people.



Aquarius If you reconnect with people you have worked with in the past, you will form a new alliance that will bring everyone involved greater opportunity.



Pisces Take care of business and avoid complaints. You can't please everyone, but as long as you don't leave anything unfinished, your conscience will be clear. EUGENIA LAST

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